

2008, the last year of the Bush administration when Democrats held the majority in the Senate:

On the issue of judicial confirmations, my good friend the majority leader and I discussed this matter publicly at the beginning of this Congress, and we agreed that President Bush, in the last 2 years of his term, should be treated as well as President Reagan, Bush 41, and President Clinton were treated in the last 2 years of their tenures in office because there was one common thread, and that was that the Senate was controlled by the opposition party.

I hope he stays true to the words he spoke when the shoe was on the other foot. I urge the majority leader to immediately schedule a vote for Kara Farnandez Stoll and the CFC and CIT nominees so they can get to work serving the American people.

BUDGETARY REVISIONS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, section 4311 of S. Con. Res. 11, the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016, allows the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to revise the allocations, aggregates, and levels in the budget resolution for legislation that would promote jobs in the United States through international trade. The authority to adjust is contingent on the legislation not increasing the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 to 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 to 2025.

I find that Senate amendment 2065 fulfills the conditions of deficit neutrality found in section 4311 of S. Con. Res. 11. Accordingly, I am revising the allocation to the Committee on Finance and the budgetary aggregates to account for the budget effects of the amendment.

I ask unanimous consent that this notice and the accompanying tables, which provide details about the adjustment, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

REVISION TO THE ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

(Pursuant to Section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 4311 of S. Con. Res. 11, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2016)

\$ Millions	2016	2016–2020	2016–2025
Current Allocation:			
Budget Authority	2,179,304	12,340,566	29,433,590
Outlays	2,169,584	12,321,005	29,408,581
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	445	1,985	–5,414
Outlays	175	1,700	–5,382
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	2,179,749	12,342,551	29,428,176
Outlays	2,169,759	12,322,705	29,403,199

BUDGET AGGREGATES BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAYS

(Pursuant to Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 4311 of S. Con. Res. 11, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2016)

\$ Millions	2016
Current Aggregates:	
Budget Authority	3,032,343
Outlays	3,091,098
Adjustments:	
Budget Authority	445
Outlays	175

BUDGET AGGREGATES BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAYS—Continued

(Pursuant to Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 4311 of S. Con. Res. 11, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2016)

\$ Millions	2016
Revised Aggregates:	
Budget Authority	3,032,788
Outlays	3,091,273

BUDGET AGGREGATE REVENUES

(Pursuant to Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 4311 of S. Con. Res. 11, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2016)

\$ Millions	2016	2016–2020	2016–2025
Current Revenue Aggregate	2,676,733	14,412,516	32,237,371
Adjustment	–766	3,398	–4,272
Revised Revenue Aggregate	2,675,967	14,415,914	32,233,099

SHULKIN CONFIRMATION

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on the nomination of Dr. David J. Shulkin to be the next Under Secretary for Health for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

I was pleased that Dr. Shulkin's nomination was confirmed by the Senate last night. The Veterans Health Administration, which he will oversee, has not had a permanent leader for more than 1 year. In my view, it is important to have permanent leadership in place to address a number of ongoing issues at the Veterans Health Administration, including properly implementing the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, to give veterans the option of accessing care in their communities and ensure managers are held accountable for any lapses in customer service; improving care and support for victims of military sexual trauma; helping to eradicate homelessness among veterans; ensuring that veterans have access to timely and adequate mental health care; reducing the systemic problems with over-prescription of opioids; and providing appropriate gender-specific services for the growing population of women veterans.

Dr. Shulkin has roughly 20 years of experience serving in leadership roles at hospitals and health care systems. I hope he can use that experience to provide the stability and leadership needed to start overcoming the serious challenges that the Veterans Health Administration continues to face. Providing a permanent leader is a significant step in ensuring that the Veterans Health Administration is providing our Nation's veterans with the level of care and service they have earned and they deserve.

I thank my colleagues for their assistance in filling this important role at VA.

SHULKIN AND COUNCIL CONFIRMATIONS

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, last night, the Senate confirmed David Shulkin to be the Under Secretary for

Health and LaVerne Council to be the Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology at the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA.

Let me begin by thanking Chairman ISAKSON for making the confirmation of Dr. Shulkin and Ms. Council a priority for this Congress.

Dr. Shulkin comes to the Veterans Health Administration, VHA, with significant experience managing complex health care organizations. Prior to being confirmed as Undersecretary of Health Dr. Shulkin was the president of Morristown Medical Center where he oversaw a 658-bed facility that has received countless awards for its excellence in care. During his confirmation hearing before the committee, Dr. Shulkin stated, "We all agree that the status quo is simply not acceptable. I want to assure you that, if confirmed, it would be my sole mission each and every day to transform the VA health system into one that provides our veterans with the highest level of quality care." Given the challenges that face VA, I look forward to working with Dr. Shulkin to ensure the status quo does not persist. I am committed to ensuring VA provides high-quality care options to veterans.

Ms. Council has significant private sector experience in managing global information and technology programs, including service as the first global chief information officer at Johnson & Johnson and leading the consolidation of 250 operating companies across 57 countries in the world. I trust that her experience will allow her to navigate ongoing issues around health data interoperability between VA and DOD, and I look forward to collaborating with her to make this a practical reality for VA and DOD clinicians and veteran patients. At a time when data security is being tested by dramatic increases in malware and intrusion attempts, it is more critical than ever to have a permanent leader in place to remediate known security deficiencies and ensure that health and personal data remains secure in VA systems. I am committed to doing right by veterans on this critical issue.

VA continues to lurch from crisis to crisis, facing health care funding shortfalls, construction cost overruns, growing patient wait times, insufficient collaboration between VA and DOD, and a backlog of disability compensation claims and appeals. In the face of these crises, these nominees will assume two of the toughest jobs in government given all of the attention VA has received of late. VA's culture has been described as corrosive and nonresponsive, and there continues to be a need for a significant change in the culture at VA. I expect both Dr. Shulkin and Ms. Council to use their expertise and experience to make these changes and improve VA services for veterans.

Finally, I would like to highlight one additional area of concern. There are far too many key leadership positions at VA that remain unfilled. There are

still five positions requiring Senate confirmation that are occupied by officials serving in an interim or acting capacity. A permanent, Senate-confirmed leadership team is vital to make the significant and necessary changes to the culture of an organization of the size and scope of VA. The bottom line is VA needs permanent, Senate-confirmed leadership in place in order to meet the significant challenges that continue to face the Department. The Senate needs the names of qualified nominees to fill VA's many vacancies.

As the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I congratulate Mr. Shulkin and Ms. Council, and thank them for their willingness to serve the veterans of this great Nation.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE IN CABO VERDE

Mr. REED. Mr. President, the 40th anniversary of Cabo Verde's independence, on July 5th, comes just one day after our country's own Independence Day. As we near Cabo Verde's 40th anniversary, this small country of 500,000 merits our recognition for its longstanding ties to the United States and for serving as a beacon for democracy in Africa.

While the existence of Cabo Verde's islands was first acknowledged by the Romans, it was not until 1456 that the uninhabited islands were rediscovered and settled by Portuguese explorers. Over the next several hundred years, as a colony of the Portuguese Empire, Cabo Verde was a lucrative trading post between Europe, Africa, and the Americas. Towards the end of the 18th century, many Cabo Verdeans came to New England, particularly Rhode Island and Massachusetts, where some found success working in the whaling industry. This immigration strengthened the ties between the United States and Cabo Verde and, in 1818, Cabo Verde became the site of the first U.S. consulate in sub-Saharan Africa. As a result of the 1974 Carnation Revolution in Portugal, and after centuries of colonial rule, Cabo Verde was able to formally gain independence on July 5, 1975, and soon established diplomatic ties with the United States.

Since that time, Cabo Verde has worked for a democratic government. It has made great strides in this regard and, today, Cabo Verde is a leader in good governance, receiving top marks from the Freedom House for political rights and civil liberties. Cabo Verde has also made significant economic and social progress in the past several years. Additionally, given Cabo Verde's strong ties to the United States and our shared commitment to democracy and economic freedom, Cabo Verde was awarded and successfully undertook a Millennium Challenge Corporation, MCC, compact for private sector, agricultural, and transportation reforms, and is currently implementing a second MCC compact in the areas of water,

sanitation, and land management. Moving forward, Cabo Verde can build on these successes to continue to grow its economy as well as strengthen ties to the United States and other allies.

Rhode Island is fortunate to have one of the two largest Cabo Verdean-American populations in the country, and continues to be enriched by the heritage and contributions of Cabo Verde. I am very pleased that earlier this month, T.F. Green Airport in Rhode Island began welcoming direct flights from Cabo Verde, which will lead to greater exchange and new opportunities between Rhode Island and Cabo Verde.

As we near July 5th, I send my best wishes to all those of Cabo Verdean descent in Rhode Island and throughout the country on the 40th anniversary of Cabo Verde's independence.

COMBATTING ANTI-SEMITISM, RACISM AND INTOLERANCE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, as our Nation continues to mourn the tragic loss of life at the Mother Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston, I wish to discuss international efforts that can assist in addressing the prejudice and discrimination that fuels violence and acts of extremism in our country and abroad.

Following the horrific attacks in Paris and Copenhagen earlier this year, the president of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Ilkka Kanerva, appointed me to serve as the assembly's first special representative on anti-Semitism, racism, and intolerance. As a Member of Congress, the U.S. Helsinki Commission, and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, I have long fought to counter prejudice and discrimination and to advance more effective measures against hate crimes. I was therefore extremely honored that President Kanerva entrusted me with this responsibility.

Given the breadth of my mandate, I am focusing my work this year on three areas: first, the urgent issue of anti-Semitism and community security; second, discrimination against Muslims and anti-Muslim backlash; finally, in light of events in our own country and the salience of these struggles for minorities in Europe, discriminatory policing.

As my first initiative, I visited the sites of the Paris and Copenhagen tragedies in April, where I met with people directly affected by the violence as well as government officials and civil society representatives. In my consultations with Jewish, Muslim, African-descent, and other community leaders, we discussed Jewish community security and civil society coalition efforts to combat all forms of prejudice and discrimination. The horrific attacks in those two capitals—simultaneously targeting Jewish communities and expressions of free speech—underscored the urgent need to address security threats to Jewish individuals and

communities. The pervasiveness of anti-Semitism is one of the main reasons I last year called on the OSCE to hold a High Level Conference to mark the 10th anniversary of the seminal OSCE Berlin Conference on Anti-Semitism and adopt a ministerial decision calling on all 57 participating states of the OSCE to implement commitments to combat anti-Semitism. In this vein, I recently led efforts to provide funding for U.S. and European civil society to work with youth to combat anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance.

Of course, we must be vigilant to ensure that such efforts do not degenerate into anti-Muslim backlash. Measures that are framed in ways that fuel anti-Muslim prejudice will ultimately be counterproductive. Moreover, we need diverse coalitions working together to address the threats we face today. This month, fringe extremist parties from seven different countries formed a block in the EU Parliament. They are now eligible to receive EU money to disseminate toxic views that combine anti-Semitism with anti-Muslim bigotry.

I have also introduced legislation to end racial profiling in the United States. The End Racial Profiling Act, S. 1056, prohibits racial profiling by law enforcement, mandates law enforcement bias training, requires data collection on all police stops, and creates procedures for receiving, investigating, and resolving profiling complaints. Tragic events in Baltimore and New York, North Charleston and Ferguson, and elsewhere around the country have shown us that Federal legislation finally ending racial profiling is essential.

It is also essential that we restore confidence between communities and the police, and the criminal justice system at large. To that end, I have also introduced the "Baltimore Act," S. 1610 named after my home city, to provide strategies and resources to strengthen police-community relations and restore justice.

Discriminatory policing is undoubtedly a challenge that many governments face. In some European countries, minorities are 10 times more likely to be stopped by the police than members of the majority. In France—the country with some of Europe's largest Muslim and Black populations—police officers were recently acquitted in connection with the death of two teenagers. That incident 10 years ago sparked riots across France; the acquittal this year has prompted protests and comparisons with Ferguson. In Germany, a human rights group is petitioning the government to end profiling after a Black student was arrested solely because his skin color led them to presume he was in the country illegally. In Slovakia, 10 police officers were acquitted in February of forcing Romani boys to strip and fight each other, even though this notorious incident was captured on cell phone